

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 8 and 14-16 are amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendment and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks Examiner Chu for the indication that claim 6 contains allowable subject matter.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representatives by Examiner Chu during the August 28 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Claims 1-4, 7-12 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,774,444 to Shimano et al. (Shimano) in view of U.S. Patent 5,818,811 to Fujii, claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shimano in view of Fujii and U.S. Patent 6,274,288 to Kewitsch et al. (Kewitsch), and claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shimano in view of Fujii and U.S. Patent 6,285,652 to Tsai. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.


As agreed during the August 28 personal interview, neither Shimano nor Fujii, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests an optical reproduction apparatus comprising *inter alia* a reproduction optical system that shades a peripheral portion of a reflected light and reproduces the information from the center portion of the reflected light, as recited in claims 1-16. Accordingly, claims 1-16 define patentable subject matter. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

As also agreed during the August 28 personal interview, neither Kewitsch nor Tsai cures the deficiencies of Shimano and Fujii in disclosing each and every feature of claims 1-16. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is objectively submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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